

## FEDERAL WORKERS UNDER ATTACK BY TERMS OF PENDING TAX BILL

(Mr. MORAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the most egregious, unfair aspect of the tax bill that will come before us deals with the people who process our Social Security tax, who patrol our borders, who operate the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and who in fact do so many services that we take for granted—the Federal employees, a quarter of a million of whom have been cut, requiring those left to perform much more difficult work.

But the most egregious aspect of this is that we are going to take \$12 billion from their retirement plan, which means that the average Federal employee will pay \$760 more per year in taxes in order to provide a tax cut for the average American of \$124. I want to repeat this. The average Federal employee will pay \$760 more in taxes to provide a tax cut of \$124 for the average American. And these are employees who were guaranteed 8 years ago that their retirement system would never be changed.

Mr. Speaker, this is an egregious assault not only on the integrity of the Congress but on the security of our Federal employees.

## PROPOSED LEGISLATION WOULD PROVIDE EXTENSION OF GRAZING PERMITS FOR RANCHERS

(Mr. COOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced H.R. 1375, legislation that would stop the U.S. Forest Service from hurting hard-working, law-abiding ranchers that graze their herds on forest system lands.

My bill would extend Forest Service grazing permits until the Agency completes its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Half of the Forest Service's 9,000 grazing permits issued on 90 million acres of Federal land will expire by the end of 1996. Some of these permits have already expired, and ranchers—by no wrongdoing of their own—have been denied their right to graze their livestock due to bureaucratic red tape. This is a punitive action and is patently unfair.

The ranchers I know hold up their end of the bargain; they are good standards of the land, they fulfill their obligations, and they have every right to expect the Government to get its job done. They ought not be punished because our Nation's environmental laws are unreasonable and inflexible. My bill would extend their grazing permits until the Forest Service completes its NEPA documentation, so that no rancher is denied a permit because of bureaucratic delays.

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## TAX ON FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAYING FOR TAX CUT

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, the debate this week is not about whether we ought to have a tax cut for the average American or for the seniors or for the hard-working folks back home. This debate is about whether we ought to give most of the tax break to the wealthiest people in America who make up to \$200,000 a year. I say no.

To raise the money for this tax break, the Republicans have once again gone after the middle class, this time in the form of Federal employees who only make an average of \$30,000 a year. They raised \$12 billion by raising the pension contribution of Federal employees by 2.5 percent, which means that the average Federal employee making \$30,000 will have to pay \$750 in new taxes, because that is what it is, a tax on Federal employees.

So let me see if I have got this straight. In order to get a tax deduction of \$500 per child, the Federal employee under the Republican plan will have to pay \$750. I do not think that makes good sense.

Mr. Speaker, this debate is not about a tax break for the folks back home; this debate is about whether we ought to give a tax break to the wealthiest.

## TIME FOR TAX RELIEF AND DEFICIT DEDUCTION

(Mr. ENSIGN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, for weeks our colleagues from the other side of the aisle have accused Republicans of coddling the rich with tax cuts while ignoring the deficit. It is time for the truth to be heard. H.R. 1215 will not only provide badly needed tax relief for middle class American families and incentives for economic growth, but will provide the first down payment on our goal for balancing the budget by the year 2002.

This bill provides a \$500 per child tax credit to America's families. The need for this is obvious. In 1950, \$1 out of every \$50 the American family earned went to the Federal Government. Now the average family of four sends \$1 out of every \$4 to Washington. It is time for the Federal Government to take its hands out of the wallets of American families and let Americans spend the money they earn.

H.R. 1215 not only provides essential tax relief for American families; it also provides \$62 billion more in deficit reduction over 5 years than the President offered in his fiscal year 1996 budget. It is time for deficit reduction and tax re-

lief for the hard-working taxpayers of America.

## BUSINESS AS USUAL

(Ms. WATERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, shame, shame, shame. Remember the debate about the FCC rule that allowed major broadcasting first to sell their firms to minorities and women in exchange for tax credits in an effort to create diversity in the media? Remember our Republican friends who screamed no to that kind of affirmative action? They claimed they were against any preferences?

Well, it is business as usual. They went into the back room and they slipped a dirty little deal in the conference report. They allowed one token minority deal, and guess who surfaces again? NEWT GINGRICH's friend, Rupert Murdoch, is going to get \$63 million in tax breaks. You know, the same Murdoch of the \$4.5 million book deal with Speaker GINGRICH?

The President must veto this dirty little deal. Let us take a clean bill to the floor to provide health insurance to the self-employed and small business persons, without giving more tax breaks to the rich. For the Republicans it is business-as-usual, cut children, babies, seniors, students, working people, but they are taking care of NEWT GINGRICH's rich friends.

## THE VICTIM IS TRUTH

(Mr. WALKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, over the last several months we have seen an assault on the truth from the liberal Democrats so vicious, so extraordinary, so mean, that it defies description.

All I can ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle is have you no shame? Have you no confidence in your philosophy and beliefs to let the American people know the truth? From outright lies on the School Lunch Program and the school loan program to the scandalous muckraking regarding the Committee on Ethics, Democrats have willfully disregarded honest dialog.

Republicans have not cut the School Lunch Program; everyone knows that fact. Republicans have had no plans to cut the school loan program; everybody knows that fact. Republicans are defending the middle class; everyone knows that. When it comes to the supposed secret deal regarding Rupert Murdoch that was just referred to by the gentlewoman from California and some others out here today, everyone